

Remarks

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 112 as indefinite, the phrase “having vertical sides and a downwardly directed” being deemed incomplete.

Claim 1 has been amended to insert –projection--after “directed”. Such structure being referenced without proper antecedent basis in line 13 of the claim.

Claims 1-3, 7, 9 and 16 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Farmer in view of Lee.

The rejection states that Farmer discloses a putter having a sole, a top, a back, a face, a bore in its top, a hosel having a foot with a projection to fit in the bore and an upper portion with a receptacle, a shaft having a first end to fit into a hosel and a second end supporting a grip, a head formed of a first material and a hosel formed of a second material and a receptacle arranged at a selected angle to the axis of the body.

The rejection states Farmer lacks a hosel formed of a square with a foot having a polygonal shaped outwardly flared should having vertical sides of about 2 mm and a head with a polygonal shaped recess with vertical side walls of about 2 mm in height formed about a bore.

The rejection then states that Lee discloses a putter with a hosel formed with a square body, a shoulder with vertical sides located above a projection, a head with a recess having vertical sides formed about a bore. Also, it is stated that “a shoulder secured in a recess with sides engaged with the walls forming a a non-rotating engagement”. It is noted that Lee does not disclose a shoulder nor the height of the sides of the shoulder inserted into the recess. The rejection is that it would be obvious

to modify Farmer to have a square hosel with a foot having a shoulder with vertical sides located above a projection with a head having a recess 2 mm in height formed about a bore with the shoulder secured in the recess with its sides engaged with the walls forming a non-rotating engagement. Further, it is stated that in view of Lee it would be obvious to provide an outwardly flared shoulder with vertical sides 2mm in height to mate with the 2 mm vertical walls of the recess.

Claim 8 is also rejected under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Farmer, in view of Lee and further in view of Delio.

Delio is said to show in Figure 2 a hosel having a length about equal the diameter of a golf ball which is said to be 1.7 inches. To then provide the hosel of Farmer be between 1-3 inches would be obvious.

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

The reference to Farmer teaches much of the claimed structure of the instant putter including providing an assortment of components including a head, a hosel and a shaft. The head top is provided with a bore to receive the end of the hosel. The reference to Farmer fails to teach a hosel having a rectangular shaped body of 1-3" with a foot having an outwardly flared polygonal shaped shoulder with vertical sides of about 2 mm. The reference does not teach a polygonal shaped recess with vertical walls of about 2 mm formed about a bore. The reference does not teach positioning the projecting end of the hosel into the bore with the side walls of the outward flared shoulder in engagement with the vertical walls of the recess providing a non-rotatable engagement between the hosel and the putter head with the flared portion meeting with

the putter top. The reference Farmer does not teach forming the putter head of one material and the hosel of another.

The reference Lee is directed to a multi-component putter with a putter head including a main body 3 formed of metal and coated with a resilient plastic sheath 4 of no particular thickness. As best shown in Figure 4 and described in paragraph 17, the sheath 4 is cut to form a rectangular hole 421. A bore 323 is located in the top of the main body 3 of the club head and in rectangular hole 421. Bore 323 receives extension 711 of club shaft 7. Shaft 7 includes lower section 71 which includes end extension 711. Extension 711 is inserted into hole 323 through hole 421 in sheath 4.

Lee makes no mention is made of the sides of section 71, which are shown recessed inward from the periphery of tubular end 712, engaging with the walls defining hole 421. No disclosure states that the combination structure of hole 421, side walls of section 71, extension 711 and hole 323 provide a secure engagement between the hosel and the club head. No mention is made of the depth of hole 421, but obviously it is restricted to the thickness of coating 4 which is not disclosed. There is no flared shoulder formed on the hosel and there is no matching of the hole depth with a shoulder height.

Delio discloses no more than a drawing showing a representation of a putter head to include a hosel and the outline of a purported golf ball.

As is required by 37 CFR 111, the claim language which defines the claimed invention and is not taught by the applied prior art is now referred to.

The claim calls for a custom putter to include a putter head formed of a first

material and which includes a sole, a top, a back and a face. The claim calls for a hosel formed of a second material. No reference of the rejection teaches this structure, not Farmer, not Lee and not Delio.

The claim calls for a 2mm recess to be formed about a bore in the putter head. No reference of the rejection teaches this structure. Not Lee which forms the recess in coating 4 and fails to disclose its depth.

The claim calls for a hosel having a rectangular shaped body of between 1 and 3 inches in length having a foot portion including an outwardly flared polygonal shaped shoulder with vertical sides of about 2 mm. No reference of the rejection discloses this structure and particularly not Lee. As earlier stated in Lee an inwardly directed section 71 having projection 711 is inserted into holes 421 and 323. Section 71 is considerably longer than the depth of hole 421.

The claim calls for the foot projection to be secured within the bore with the outwardly flared shoulder fitted into the recess with its vertical sides engaged with the vertical walls of the recess and upper portions of said flared shoulder merged with said top of said putter head providing a secure non-rotatable connection.

No reference of the rejection discloses this structure. Particularly not Lee which discloses no outwardly flared shoulder and only a hole 421 of no particular depth in a coating 4 of resilient material. Resilient material does not provide a non-rotating engagement between section 71 and the putter head. Further section 71 does not merge with the putter head top.

For these reasons, it is believe that clam 1 as here presented clearly defines over

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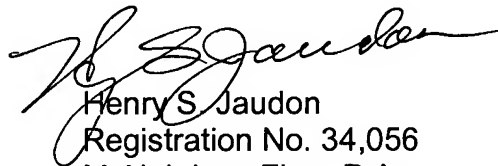
the prior art of the rejection.

Claims 3 and 9 depend from claim 1 and are believed to also be allowable.

It is respectfully urged that the proposed amendment be entered and the claims found to be allowable. It is further urged that no new issues are presented in claim 1 as here proposed is merely combined with claims 7, 8 and 16 previously considered and now cancelled.

Should the Examiner find the claims to be not allowable, it is requested that the proposed amendment be entered for purposes of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,



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